

CLAIMS

1. An electronic mail processing apparatus comprising:
 - a data receiving section operable to receive mail data including video data or audio data;
 - a cited data detecting section operable to detect a cited part of the received video data or audio data as cited data from the mail data received by the data receiving section; and
 - a reproduction control section operable to control a reproducing method of the received mail data,
 - wherein the reproduction control section controls the reproduction method so that a reproduction method for the cited data is deferent from a reproduction method for data other than the cited data in the received mail data.
- 15 2. The electronic mail processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the reproduction control section controls the reproduction speed of the mail data so as to reproduce the data other than the cited data in the received mail data at a first speed, and reproduce the cited data at a second speed which is faster than the first speed.
- 20 3. The electronic mail processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the cited data includes information relating to a creator of the mail data in a specified region, and the cited data detecting section detects the cited portion by using the information relating to the creator.
- 25 4. The electronic mail processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the video data or audio data included in the cited data is data compressed by a specified compressing method and having a header portion in which information relating to a creator of the mail data is recorded.

5. The electronic mail processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the cited data includes information relating to a creator of the mail data in a form of a digital watermark embedded in the video data or audio data, and the cited data detecting section detects the cited data by using the information relating to the creator embedded in a form of a digital watermark.

6. The electronic mail processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a data creating section operable to create the mail data for transmission including video data or audio data, wherein when creating the mail data, the data creating section stores information relating to a creator of the mail data in a specified recording region of the video data or audio data.

10 7. The electronic mail processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a data creating section operable to create the mail data for transmission including video data or audio data, wherein when creating the mail data, the data creating section embeds information relating to a creator of the mail data in a form of a digital watermark in the video data or audio data.

15 8. An electronic mail processing method comprising:
20 receiving mail data including video data or audio data;
detecting a cited part of the video data or audio data as cited data from the received mail data; and
reproducing the cited data detected from the received mail data and data other than the cited data in the received mail data in different methods.

25 9. The electronic mail processing method according to claim 8, wherein the data other than the cited data in the received mail data is reproduced at a first speed, and the cited data is reproduced at a second speed which is faster than the first speed.

10. The electronic mail processing method according to claim 8, wherein the cited data includes information relating to a creator of the mail data in a specified region, and the cited data is detected by using the information relating to the creator.

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11. The electronic mail processing method according to claim 8, wherein the video data or audio data included in the cited data is data compressed by a specified compressing method and having a header portion in which information relating to a creator of the mail data is recorded.

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12. The electronic mail processing method according to claim 8, wherein the cited data includes the information relating to a creator of the mail data in a form of a digital watermark embedded in the video data or audio data, and the cited data is detected by using the information relating to the creator embedded in a form of a digital watermark.

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13. The electronic mail processing method according to claim 8, further comprising creating mail data including video data or audio data, storing information relating to a creator of the created mail data in a specified recording region in the mail data, and transmitting the created mail data storing the information relating to the creator.

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14. The electronic mail processing method according to claim 8, further comprising creating mail data including video data or audio data, embedding information relating to a creator of the created mail data in a form of a digital watermark in the video data or audio data, and transmitting the created mail data embedded with the information relating to the creator.

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15. An electronic mail processing system comprising a first mail processing apparatus and a second mail processing apparatus which

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exchanges electronic mails with the first mail processing apparatus,

a) the first mail processing apparatus including:

a data transmitting and receiving section operable to transmit and receive mail data including video data or audio data,

5 a cited data detecting section operable to detect a cited part of video data or audio data as cited data from the received mail data,

a reproduction control section operable to control a reproducing method of the received mail data so that a reproduction method for the cited data is deferent from a reproduction method for data other than the cited data in the received mail data, and

10 a data creating section operable to create mail data for transmission by adding information relating to a creator of the mail data to video data or audio data included in the mail data, and

b) the second mail processing apparatus including:

15 a data transmitting and receiving section operable to transmit and receive mail data, and

a data editing section operable to edit the mail data received in the data transmitting and receiving section,

20 wherein the second mail processing apparatus creates a reply mail including as cited data a part or whole of video data and audio data included in the received mail data, by the data editing section, and transmits a reply mail to a sender of the received mail data through the data transmitting and receiving section.